

AS

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 97-426-C - ORDER NO. 97-1058
DECEMBER 22, 1997

IN RE: Application of ALLTEL Communications,) ORDER
Inc. and Cellular Phone of Aiken-Augusta,) APPROVING
Inc. for Authority to Merge and to) MERGER AND
Transfer Certificate of Public) TRANSFER OF
Convenience and Necessity.) CERTIFICATE

Imr

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the application of ALLTEL Communications, Inc. (ALLTEL) and Cellular Phone of Aiken-Augusta, Inc. (Cellular Phone) (jointly known as the companies) for authority to merge. ALLTEL will be the surviving corporation. Additionally, the companies seek the approval of the transfer of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide commercial mobile radio services currently held in the name of Cellular Phone Aiken-Augusta, Inc. to ALLTEL Communications, Inc.

Pursuant to the instructions of the Commission's Executive Director, the companies published a Notice of Filing, one time, in newspapers of general circulation in the service areas of the companies. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were received.

Subsequently, the companies submitted the verified testimony of Steve Mowery, Director-Regulatory and Government Policy for ALLTEL, and ask that this testimony constitute the hearing in this matter. We grant this request.

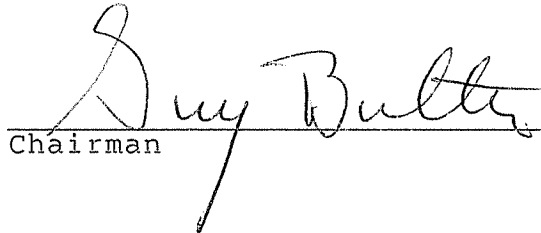
Mowery states in his testimony that ALLTEL and Cellular Phone seek approval to merge, along with other subsidiaries of ALLTEL Mobile Communications, Inc., and to transfer the cellular Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity currently held in the name of Cellular Phone to ALLTEL.

According to Mowery, there will be no impact upon South Carolina customers of either ALLTEL or Cellular Phone. The transaction will be transparent to South Carolina customers. Further, the tariffs on file with the Commission will not be affected. There will be no adverse effect upon the rates for service for the customers of either company. The companies will not, in connection with the merger, alter the rates for their existing customers. Mowery states that the approval of the application is in the public interest because the merger will simplify the existing corporate structure and eliminate certain duplications in present operations without affecting service presently rendered.

We agree that the merger is in the public interest for the reasons stated above, and hereby approve it. We also approve the requested transfer of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity accordingly.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until
further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Deputy Executive Director
(SEAL)